CLAIMS

1. A handpiece, comprising:

a handpiece assembly including a handpiece housing; and

an insert detachably coupled to the handpiece housing, the insert including an RF electrode with a conductive portion and a dielectric.

2. The handpiece of claim 1, further comprising:

a cooling fluidic medium dispensing assembly coupled to the insert and the handpiece housing.

3. The handpiece of claim 1, wherein the cooling fluidic medium dispensing assembly includes a fluid delivery member coupled to a cooling fluidic medium valve member.

4. The handpiece of claim 3, wherein the cooling fluidic medium valve member is positioned in the handpiece housing.

5. The handpiece of claim 3, wherein the cooling fluidic medium valve member is positioned in the electrode assembly.

6. The handpiece of claim 3, wherein the fluid delivery member is positioned in the handpiece housing.

7. The handpiece of claim 3, wherein the fluid delivery member is positioned in the insert.

8. The handpiece of claim 3, wherein the fluid delivery

9. The handpiece of claim 3, wherein the fluid delivery member is configured to deliver a controllable amount of cooling fluidic medium to the RF electrode.

10. The handpiece of claim 3, wherein the fluid delivery member is configured to controllably deliver a cooling fluidic medium to the back surface of the RF electrode.

11. The handpiece of claim 3, wherein the fluid delivery member is configured to controllably deliver fluid to a backside of the RF electrode to evaporatively cool the RF electrode and conductively cool a skin surface in contact with the front side of the RF electrode.

12. The handpiece of claim 3, wherein the fluid delivery member is configured to controllably deliver a cooling fluidic medium to the back surface of the RF electrode at substantially any orientation of the front surface of the RF electrode relative to a direction of gravity.

13. The handpiece of claim 3, wherein the RF electrode is sufficiently sealed to minimize flow of a cooling fluidic medium from the back surface of the RF electrode to a skin surface in contact with the front surface of the RF electrode.

14. The handpiece of claim 1, wherein the insert includes a vent.

15. The handpiece of claim 3, wherein the cooling fluidic medium valve member is configured to provide a pulsed delivery of a cooling fluidic medium.

16. The handpiece of claim 3, wherein the cooling fluidic medium valve member includes a solenoid valve.

17. The handpiece of claim 1, further comprising:
a force sensor coupled to the RF electrode.

18. The handpiece of claim 17, wherein the force sensor is configured to detect an amount of force applied by the RF electrode against a surface.

19. The handpiece of claim 17, wherein the force sensor is configured to zero out gravity effects of the weight of the electrode assembly.

20. The handpiece of claim 17, wherein the force sensor is configured to zero out gravity effects of the weight of the electrode assembly in any orientation of a front surface of the RF electrode relative to a direction of gravity.

21. The handpiece of claim 17, wherein the force sensor is configured to provide an indication of RF electrode contact with a skin surface.

22. The handpiece of claim 17, wherein the force sensor is configured to provide a signal indicating that a force applied by the RF electrode to a contacted skin surface is below a minimum threshold.

23. The handpiece of claim 17, wherein the force sensor is configured to provide a signal indicating that a force applied by the RF electrode to a contacted skin surface is above a maximum threshold.

24. The handpiece of claim 17, further comprising

a tare button coupled to the force sensor.

25. The handpiece of claim 1, wherein the RF electrode includes a flex circuit.

26. The handpiece of claim 25, wherein the flex circuit is configured to isolate flow of a cooling fluidic medium from a back surface of the RF electrode to a front surface of the RF electrode.

27. The handpiece of claim 25, wherein the flex circuit is configured to create a reservoir for a cooling fluidic medium that gathers at a back surface of the RF electrode.

28. The handpiece of claim 17, wherein the RF electrode includes a conductive portion and a dielectric portion.

29. The handpiece of claim 17, wherein the RF electrode is configured to be capacitively coupled to a skin surface when at least a portion of the RF electrode is in contact with the skin surface.

30. A handpiece, comprising:

a handpiece assembly including a handpiece housing;

an insert detachably coupled to the handpiece housing; and

an RF electrode positioned in the insert, the RF electrode including a flex circuit.

31. The handpiece of claim 30, further comprising:

a cooling fluidic medium dispensing assembly coupled to the insert and the handpiece housing.

32. The handpiece of claim 30, wherein the cooling fluidic medium dispensing assembly includes a fluid delivery member coupled to a cooling fluidic medium valve member.

33. The handpiece of claim 32, wherein the cooling fluidic medium valve member is positioned in the handpiece housing.

34. The handpiece of claim 32, wherein the cooling fluidic medium valve member is positioned in the electrode assembly.

35. The handpiece of claim 32, wherein the fluid delivery member is positioned in the handpiece housing.

36. The handpiece of claim 32, wherein the fluid delivery member is positioned in the insert.

37. The handpiece of claim 32, wherein the fluid delivery member includes a nozzle.

38. The handpiece of claim 32, wherein the fluid delivery member is configured to deliver a controllable amount of cooling fluidic medium to the RF electrode.

39. The handpiece of claim 32, wherein the fluid delivery member is configured to controllably deliver a cooling fluidic medium to the back surface of the RF electrode.

40. The handpiece of claim 32, wherein the fluid delivery member is configured to controllably deliver fluid to a backside of the RF electrode to evaporatively cool the RF electrode and conductively cool a skin surface in contact with the front side of the RF electrode.

41. The handpiece of claim 32, wherein the fluid delivery member is configured to controllably deliver a cooling fluidic medium to the back surface of the RF electrode at substantially any orientation of the front surface of the RF electrode relative to a direction of gravity.

42. The handpiece of claim 32, wherein the RF electrode is sufficiently sealed to minimize flow of a cooling fluidic medium from the back surface of the RF electrode to a skin surface in contact with the front surface of the RF electrode.

43. The handpiece of claim 30, wherein the insert includes a vent.

44. The handpiece of claim 32, wherein the cooling fluidic medium valve member is configured to provide a pulsed delivery of a cooling fluidic medium.

45. The handpiece of claim 32, wherein the cooling fluidic medium valve member includes a solenoid valve.

46. The handpiece of claim 30, further comprising:

a force sensor coupled to the RF electrode.

47. The handpiece of claim 46, wherein the force sensor is configured to detect an amount of force applied by the RF electrode against a surface.

48. The handpiece of claim 46, wherein the force sensor is

49. The handpiece of claim 46, wherein the force sensor is configured to zero out gravity effects of the weight of the electrode assembly in any orientation of a front surface of the RF electrode relative to a direction of gravity.

50. The handpiece of claim 46, wherein the force sensor is configured to provide an indication of RF electrode contact with a skin surface.

51. The handpiece of claim 46, wherein the force sensor is configured to provide a signal indicating that a force applied by the RF electrode to a contacted skin surface is below a minimum threshold.

52. The handpiece of claim 46, wherein the force sensor is configured to provide a signal indicating that a force applied by the RF electrode to a contacted skin surface is above a maximum threshold.

53. The handpiece of claim 46, further comprising:
a tare button coupled to the force sensor.

54. The handpiece of claim 30, wherein the flex circuit is configured to isolate flow of a cooling fluidic medium from a back surface of the RF electrode to a front surface of the RF electrode.

55. The handpiece of claim 30, wherein the flex circuit is configured to create a reservoir for a cooling fluidic medium that gathers at a back surface of the RF electrode.

56. The handpiece of claim 30, wherein the RF electrode includes a conductive portion and a dielectric portion.

57. The handpiece of claim 30, wherein the RF electrode is configured to be capacitively coupled to a skin surface when at least a portion of the RF electrode is in contact with the skin surface.

58. A handpiece, comprising:

a handpiece assembly including a handpiece housing; and

an insert detachably coupled to the handpiece housing, the insert including a flex circuit and an RF electrode that includes a conductive portion and a dielectric.

59. The handpiece of claim 58, further comprising:

a cooling fluidic medium dispensing assembly coupled to the insert and the handpiece housing.

60. The handpiece of claim 58, wherein the cooling fluidic medium dispensing assembly includes a fluid delivery member coupled to a cooling fluidic medium valve member.

61. The handpiece of claim 60, wherein the cooling fluidic medium valve member is positioned in the handpiece housing.

62. The handpiece of claim 60, wherein the cooling fluidic medium valve member is positioned in the electrode assembly.

63. The handpiece of claim 60, wherein the fluid delivery member is positioned in the handpiece housing.

64. The handpiece of claim 60, wherein the fluid delivery member is positioned in the insert.

65. The handpiece of claim 60, wherein the fluid delivery member includes a nozzle.

66. The handpiece of claim 60, wherein the fluid delivery member is configured to deliver a controllable amount of cooling fluidic medium to the RF electrode.

67. The handpiece of claim 60, wherein the fluid delivery member is configured to controllably deliver a cooling fluidic medium to the back surface of the RF electrode.

68. The handpiece of claim 60, wherein the fluid delivery member is configured to controllably deliver fluid to a backside of the RF electrode to evaporatively cool the RF electrode and conductively cool a skin surface in contact with the front side of the RF electrode.

69. The handpiece of claim 60, wherein the fluid delivery member is configured to controllably deliver a cooling fluidic medium to the back surface of the RF electrode at substantially any orientation of the front surface of the RF electrode relative to a direction of gravity.

70. The handpiece of claim 60, wherein the RF electrode is sufficiently sealed to minimize flow of a cooling fluidic medium from the back surface of the RF electrode to a skin surface in contact with the front surface of the RF electrode.

71. The handpiece of claim 58, wherein the insert includes a vent.

72. The handpiece of claim 60, wherein the cooling fluidic medium valve member is configured to provide a pulsed delivery of a cooling fluidic medium.

73. The handpiece of claim 60, wherein the cooling fluidic medium valve member includes a solenoid valve.

74. The handpiece of claim 58, further comprising:
a force sensor coupled to the RF electrode.

75. The handpiece of claim 74, wherein the force sensor is configured to detect an amount of force applied by the RF electrode against a surface.

76. The handpiece of claim 74, wherein the force sensor is configured to zero out gravity effects of the weight of the electrode assembly.

77. The handpiece of claim 74, wherein the force sensor is configured to zero out gravity effects of the weight of the electrode assembly in any orientation of a front surface of the RF electrode relative to a direction of gravity.

78. The handpiece of claim 74, wherein the force sensor is configured to provide an indication of RF electrode contact with a skin surface.

79. The handpiece of claim 74, wherein the force sensor is configured to provide a signal indicating that a force applied by the RF electrode to a contacted skin surface is below a minimum threshold.

80. The handpiece of claim 74, wherein the force sensor is configured to provide a signal indicating that a force applied by the RF electrode to a contacted skin surface is above a maximum threshold.

81. The handpiece of claim 74, further comprising:

a tare button coupled to the force sensor.

82. The handpiece of claim 58, wherein the flex circuit is configured to isolate flow of a cooling fluidic medium from a back surface of the RF electrode to a front surface of the RF electrode.

83. The handpiece of claim 58, wherein the flex circuit is configured to create a reservoir for a cooling fluidic medium that gathers at a back surface of the RF electrode.

84. The handpiece of claim 58, wherein the RF electrode is configured to be capacitively coupled to a skin surface when at least a portion of the RF electrode is in contact with the skin surface.